

April 22, 2021
Zoom Meeting
President David Laughman, Presiding

1. **Welcome and Introductions (President)** *President, David Laughman, opened the meeting at 08:30 AM.*
2. **Pledge to the Flag** *Pledge recited by members, led by President*
3. **Roll Call (Secretary)** *Roll call conducted/recorded by the President in the absence of the Secretary. Sufficient members were present to constitute a quorum. (David, would you provide your list of attended to Danielle.)*
4. **Motion to approve the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of March 2021.** *Motion approved to accept the Minutes of the March 21 meeting. 1st by Bill Wagner, Biglerville. 2nd by Randy Phiel, Adams County*
5. **Treasurer's Report** *Motion approved to accept the Treasurer's Report. 1st by Bob Gordon. 2nd by Jim Martin, Adams County.*
6. **Speaker: Andrew Dalton, ED of Adams County Historical Society.** *Andrew Dalton provided an update of the status of the new Adams County Historical Society facility. The new facility addresses critical deficiencies in storage, display space, fire suppression, climate control and parking. The objective of the new facility is to showcase a more complete portrayal of Adams County History beyond the battle through permanent and rotating exhibits. Rotating exhibits showcasing different part the county and municipalities are anticipated. Construction is expected to start later this year at the Old Adams County Prison site. State grant funding is pending. Cost is projected to be ~\$7-8M. Up to \$5M has been secured. Added funding will be sought to fund endowments for long term operations. Mr. Dalton solicited support from all municipalities. A letter will be forthcoming to elected officials seeking support and offering presentations at public meetings. The county planning office directed Mr. Dalton to the website for the most up to date points of municipal contact. Randy Phiel and Jim Martin, Adams County Commissioners, offered comments in support of the efforts by Mr. Dalton and encouragement for municipal support. Mr. Phiel emphasized the need to educate local children about the full scope of Adams County history before and after the 1863 battle.*
7. **New Business:**
 - **Legislative Priorities** *Bob Gordon reviewed the previously distributed draft Legislative Priorities. Motion approved to accept the draft priorities. 1st by Scott Bolton. 2nd by Ron Harris.*
 - **2021 Committees/Members** *President Laughman reviewed the committees list, noting and thanking those that volunteer to serve on multiple committees and solicited volunteers to meet the many opportunities to help.*
8. **Regular Business**
 - a. **Adams County Commissioners**

Randy Phiel: The Covid Vaccination Center will revert to operations from 6 days to 3 days per week as of 13 May. The center will likely remain in operation for several more months. In contract to the recent general election, the primary election will require that all mail-in ballots be received NLT 8:00 PM on the day of the election. Relayed that the location of several polling locations has been changed per previously published information. There will be a drop box for ballots located in the courthouse lobby. The county is preparing to distribute \$1.16M in grants.

to the hospitality industry and preparing to administer other Covid relief funds and they become available and rules are provided. Spraying for black flies in the eastern part of the county in the vicinity of Conewago Creek is scheduled for 22 April

Jim Martin: The county is in the midst of an extensive capital campaign of repair and maintenance of county facilities including courthouse roofing and energy saving measure. Flags are at half-staff for the former VP Walter Mondale.

Marty Qually: Discussed the repair campaign and urged municipalities to seek funds for needs to take advantage of historically low interest rates. Discussed the failure of younger population cohort to seek Covid vaccinations negatively impact the ability of business to acquire sufficient staff to sustain operation. The Mercy House official opening 14 May will include a dedication program and tours.

b. Legislative Representatives

Cathy Wallen (Office of Rep. Torren Ecker) Briefly discussed the progress of bills related to Covid Lawsuit Immunity and Records Retention by state government. In response to a question about constituent inquiries regarding jobless benefits she indicated that inquiries are much less as the benefits system seems to be responding better. However, there have been increased inquiries from employers regarding the difficulty in recalling workers due to benefits disincentives to work.

No other legislative offices represented.

c. Adams County Planning Office

Andy Merkel: Next ACTPO meeting is 1:00 PM, 28 April. An update to the long-range transportation plan is ongoing. A survey to municipalities will be forthcoming to assess need. The Equine Industry Economic Impact study is complete as of 21 April and will be available for distribution shortly. The study indicated that the equine industry contributes \$49M revenue impact. Likely a subject for future ACCOG presentation. Dinah Duvall will join the office next week to assist in the administration of the Community Development Block Grant program.

d. Township Officials Association *No Report*

e. Boroughs Association *The next association meeting will be at 6:30 PM 17 May by Zoom. The York Adams Tax Bureau meeting will be 6:30 PM 26 April.*

f. PSP *The PSP officially moved operations to the new barracks at 1756 Granite Station Rd. as of 20 April although the physical move is still underway. A dedication and tour will likely occur no earlier than sometime in June. Date TBD.*

g. Destination Gettysburg *No Report*

h. ACTCC *No Report*

i. School Districts *No Report*

j. AEA *No Report*

9. Committee Reports

a. AC Collaboration *No Report*

b. Legislative Per *earlier discussion and approval of legislative priorities. The committee in, conjunction with Ben Thomas, moderator, are investigating timing and format of the forum, including coordination with Community Media for coverage. Details TBD.*

c. Emergency Services

The PA Dept of Health has issued a certificate to Adams Rescue EMS in recognition for training and policies that positively impact those on the autism spectrum.

10. Public Comment (General)

President Laughman reminded all about the upcoming primary and the need for all to get out the vote.

*Jim Martin Announced **Carl Persiak** (spelling?) as the new director of Destination Gettysburg.*

The PA Mayor Association will celebrate Hometown Heroes with three minutes of bell ringing at 7:00 PM 2 May. All municipalities and other organizations are encouraged to participate.

11. Announcements

- **Legislative Forum Scheduled**

12. Adjourn *President adjourned the meeting at 09:53 AM*

Note: NEXT MEETING – May 27, 2021

When we meet live, ALL CELL PHONES SHOULD BE TURNED OFF OR PLACED ON VIBRATE, THANK YOU.

COG SNOW POLICY: IF THE GETTYSBURGSCHOOL DISTRICT CANCELS SCHOOL OR IS ON A DELAY, THE COG MEETING IS CANCELED.